(f) the steps being taken by Government with regard to such areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (f) Under Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP), distribution circles in consultation with the State Government and State Electricity Boards (SEBs) have been identified in a phased manner to improve sub-transmission and distribution system, reduce Transmission & Distribution losses, improve quality of supply of power, reduce outages and interruptions.

The high density networks within the circles that have high T&D losses and that have high revenue generation potential are being targeted for improvement and upgradation of Sub-transmission and distribution system on the basis of Detailed Project Reports (DPR).

The DPRs are technically commercially and financially vetted to ensure that distribution circles become commercially viable and the objective of the programme are achieved.

Meeting of Heads of SEBs

†4463. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether he had recently convened a meeting of Heads of SEBs regarding improvements in power distribution;

(b) if so, the details of issues raised in the meting and SEB-wise details of views expressed by heads of SEBs in this regards; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) The meeting was held on 24.4.2002 at New Delhi with chairpersons of SEBs/Utilities, and there was general consensus that Distribution Sector needs to be

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

given adequate attention to improve the financial health of the SEBs and to make power available on demand. The means for achieving this objective as well as modalities for implementation of Accelerated Power Development and Reform Programme (APDRP) were discussed. In order to ensure timely achievement of results, discussions were held on Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) to be signed between SEBs/Utilities and the Ministry of Power and on performance benchmarks and targets.

Progress Regarding Setting up of Kota Thermal power Station UNIT-VI

4464. SHRI AIMADUDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU) : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the progress so far made in setting up of the Kota Thermal Power Station Unit-VI (XI 195 MW);

(b) whether TEC (Techno-Economic Clearance) for the same has been issued by the Central Electricity Authority; and

(c) by when, the unit is likely to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) The order for supply, erection & commissioning of steam generator and turbine generator of Kota Thermal Power Station Unit-VI has been placed on BHEL in July, 2001 at a total cost of Rs. 293.00 crores. The Civil Work of Boiler area has commenced in September, 2001. The civil works of other areas have also been commenced and are under full swing. Power Finance Corporation (PFC) has issued letter of comfort in December, 2001 to provide financial assistance of Rs. 445.00 Crore which represents 70% of the project cost. The Techno-economic clearance of the Scheme was considered by CEA in January, 2002 and is held up due to non-receipt of ratification of coal linkage by Standing Linkage Committee (Long-Term), Ministry of Coal. The Unit is envisaged to be commissioned within 27 months from the date of the placement of order for main plant package and equipment.